



"If we have to pay, then we should have a say."

December 6, 2016

The Honorable Members of the
Michigan House of Representatives
Local Government Committee
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909

RE: "Transformational Brownfield Plan", SB 1061 (S-3), also known as TIF on Steroids

Dear Representatives,

On behalf of over thirty different nonprofit organizations, faith groups, and neighborhood groups, we urge you to please oppose SB 1061 and any other bills tie-barred to it. Our public financing options should be reserved for schools and other public facilities.

Our state has suffered for far too long from these types of tax schemes that have not created sustainable change in our communities across the state of Michigan. Tax breaks should be reserved for projects and programs that will help local municipalities restore their infrastructure and benefit the neighborhoods that host these large scale projects. There is no proof that public financing of private projects has benefited the state. We have only seen evidence that it has hurt our state with increased poverty levels, an education system that fails our children, and our public infrastructure disrepair. Unless there is real factual evidence that these huge tax breaks and the diversion of public tax dollars to private and/or quasi-governmental groups benefit our state, we urge a NO vote. Michigan can do better.

Sincerely,

Rise Together Detroit